(b) if so, the details of such measure; and

(c) whether such proposed measures could be made effective?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) to (c) It is Government's constant endeavour to contain non-plan, non-developmental expenditure. It is in this context that, along with other measures, instructions for austerity in Government expenditure have been issued. The austerity measures include ban on the creation of posts, reduction in the number of sanctioned posts, restrictions on the filling up of vacant posts, reduction in office expenses, restrictions on purchase of vehcles, restrictions on foreign travel and on entertainment/hospitality expenses etc. Considering the factors which contribute to the fiscal and revenue deficits, austerity measures alone can have only a limited impact on the size of these deficits.

Opening of new Post Offices in Assam

*346. SHRIMATI BASANTI SARMA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to open new post offices in the State of Assam in the year 1999-2000;

(b) if so, the district-wise details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : (a) 24 Extra Departmental Branch Post Offices and 7 Departmental Sub Post Offices have been opened in the State of Assam during the year 1999-2000.

(b) and (c) The district-wise details of the above mentioned post offices are shown in the attached statement.

STATEMENT

District wise details of Extra Departmental Branch Post Offices and Departmental Sub Post Offices opened in the State of Assam during the year 1999-2000.

Extra Departmental Branch Post Office

Sl. No.	Name of Office	District	Date of Opening
1.	Dharai	Dhubri	01.11.1999
2.	Baruapara	Dhubri	01.11.1999
3.	Falimari Pt.I	Dhubri	21.12.1999
4.	Tetelia	Kamrup	17.02.2000
5.	Khelma VII	Cachar	14.03.2000
6.	Chhaligram	Cachar	08.03.2000
7.	Kaknem	Cachar	16.03.2000
8.	Ghungoor Kuarpar	Cachar	08.03.2000
9.	Puru Sonapur	Cachar	15.03.2000
10.	Borakhai T.E.	Cachar	14.03.2000
11.	Batertal	Cachar	18.03.2000
12.	Kalinagar Pt.I	Cachar	16.03.2000
13.	Sarada Pally	Cachar	09.03.2000
14.	Selurpar	Cachar	13.03.2000
15.	Santipur (Bekirpar)	Cachar	23.03.2000
16.	Gajalghat	Cachar	16.03.2000
17.	Berabak Pt. II	Cachar	11.03.2000
18.	Ronghar Pt. II	Cachar	22.03.2000
19.	Bil-Burunga	Cachar	28.03.2000
20.	Tupkhana	Cachar	30.03.2000
21.	Mahalthal	Cachar	29.03.2000
22.	Gossaipur Pt. II	Cachar	30.03.2000
23.	Shyamacharanpur	Cachar	30.03.2000
24.	Satkarakandi	Cachar	24.03.2000

Departmental Sub-Post Offices

Sl. No.	Name of Office	District	Date of Opening
1.	Hatigaon Vhariali	Kamrup (Guwahati)	02.12.1999
2.	Salganga	Cachar	30.12.1999
3.	Silchar Court	Cachar	14.07.1999
4.	Diphu Govt. College	Karbi Anglong	30.03.2000
5.	Katirail	Cachar	29.03.2000
6.	Rajeshwarpur	Hailakandi	30.03.2000
7.	Bengtol	Bongaigaon	31.03.2000

Loans given by foreign countries

*347. SHRI W. ANGOU SINGH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 1290 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 7th March, 2000 and state :

(a) the countries which are giving loans to India along with the amount received country-wise; and

(b) the total amount lent to other countries by India ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI V. DHANANJAY KUMAR) : (a) Country and currency-wise details of bilateral loans outstanding against Government of India (on Government Account) as on 31.03.1999.

Countries giving Bilateral Loans to the Govt. of India

Amount Outstanding as on 31.03.1999

Country	Currency	Amount (million)
Austria	Austrian Shilling	496.9
Belgium	Belgian Franc	2107.2
Canada	Canadian Dollar	508.1
Denmark	Denmark Kroner	737.9